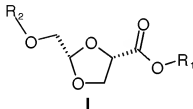


This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of claims:

1. (Previously Presented): A process for producing a compound of formula I:



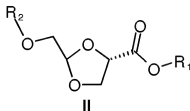
wherein

R₁ is C₁₋₁₂ alkyl, C₂₋₁₂ alkenyl, C₂₋₁₂ alkynyl, C₆₋₁₂ aryl, C₃₋₁₀ heterocycle, C₆₋₁₂ aralkyl or C₃₋₁₀ heteroaralkyl, and

R₂ is CO-C₁₋₆ alkyl, CO-C₆₋₁₂ aryl, CO-C₁₋₆ alkoxy, CO-C₆₋₁₂ aryloxy, or CO-C₆₋₁₂ arylalkyl;

said process comprising:

- a) subjecting a compound of formula II:

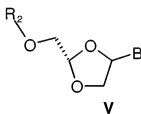


to an enzymatic diastereomeric resolution in the presence of a suitable amount of Pig Liver Esterase enzyme or Porcine Pancreatic Lipase enzyme;

- b) recovering said compound of formula I.

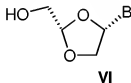
2. (Original): The process according to claim 1, wherein R₁ is C₁₋₁₂ alkyl.

3. (Previously Presented): The process according to claim 1 wherein R_2 is CO-C_{1-6} alkyl.
4. (Previously Presented): The process according to claim 1, wherein R_2 is CO-C_{6-12} aryl.
5. (Previously Presented): The process according to claim 1, wherein the enzyme is Pig Liver Esterase.
6. (Previously Presented): The process according to claim 1, wherein the enzyme is Porcine Pancreatic Lipase.
7. (Previously Presented): The process according to claim 1, further comprising:
 - a) replacing the functional group at position C4 of the compound of formula I to produce a compound of formula V:



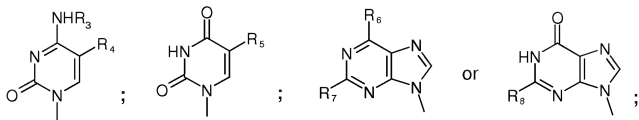
wherein B is purine or pyrimidine base or an analogue thereof;

- b) removing the group R_2 of said compound of formula V; and
- c) recovering a compound of formula VI:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

8. (Previously Presented): The process according to claim 7, wherein B is:



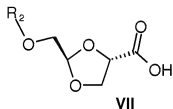
R₃ is H, C₁₋₆ alkyl, C₁₋₆ acyl, or CO-R₉;

R₉ is H or C₁₋₆ alkyl;

R₄ and R₅ are each independently H, C₁₋₆ alkyl, bromide, chloride, fluoride, iodide or CF₃; and

R₆, R₇ and R₈ are each independently H, bromide, chloride, fluoride, iodide, amino, hydroxyl, or C₃₋₆ cycloalkylamino.

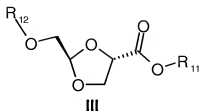
9. (Previously Presented): The process according to claim 1, further comprising the step of recovering a compound of formula VII:



10. (Original): A process according to claim 1, wherein R₁ is C₁₋₁₂ alkyl and R₂ is CO-C₆₋₁₂ aryl.

11. (Original): A process according to claim 1, wherein R₁ is methyl and R₂ is benzoyl.

12. (Currently Amended): A process for producing a compound of formula III:



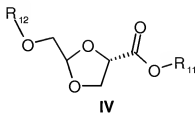
wherein

R_{11} is C_{1-12} alkyl, C_{2-12} alkenyl, C_{2-12} alkynyl, C_{6-12} aryl, C_{3-10} heterocycle, C_{6-12} aralkyl or C_{3-10} heteroaralkyl; and

R_{12} is $CO-C_{1-6}$ alkyl, $CO-C_{6-12}$ aryl, $CO-C_{1-6}$ alkoxy, $CO-C_{6-12}$ aryloxy, or $CO-C_{6-12}$ arylalkyl,

said process comprising:

- a) subjecting a compound of formula IV:



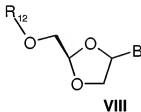
to an enzymatic diastereomeric resolution in the presence of a suitable amount of an enzyme, wherein said enzyme is Candida Antarctica "A" lipase, Candida Antarctica "B" lipase, Candida Lypolitica Lipase, or Rhizomucor Miehei Lipase; and

- b) recovering said compound of formula III.

13. (Original): The process according to claim 12, wherein R_{11} is C_{1-12} alkyl.

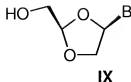
14. (Previously Presented): The process according to claim 12, wherein R_{12} is $CO-C_{1-6}$ alkyl.

15. (Original): The process according to claim 12, wherein R_{12} is CO-C₆₋₁₂ aryl.
16. (Original): The process according to claim 12, wherein the enzyme is Candida Antarctica "A" lipase.
17. (Original): The process according to claim 12, wherein the enzyme is Candida Antarctica "B" lipase.
18. (Original): The process according to claim 12, wherein the enzyme is Candida Lypholitica Lipase.
19. (Original): The process according to claim 12, wherein the enzyme is Rhizomucor Miehei Lipase.
20. (Previously Presented): The process according to claim 12, further comprising:
a) replacing the functional group at position C4 of the compound of formula III to produce a compound of formula VIII:



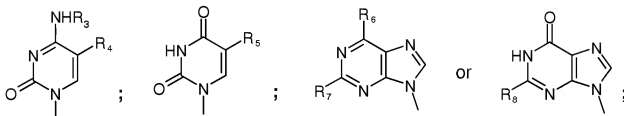
wherein B is purine or pyrimidine base or an analogue thereof;

- b) removing group R_{12} of said compound of formula VIII;
- c) recovering a compound of formula IX:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

21. (Previously Presented): The process according to claim 20, wherein B is



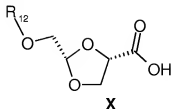
R₃ is H, C₁₋₆ alkyl, C₁₋₆ acyl and CO-R₉;

R₉ is H or C₁₋₆ alkyl;

R₄ and R₅ are each independently H, C₁₋₆ alkyl, bromide, chloride, fluoride, iodide or CF₃; and

R₆, R₇ and R₈ are each independently H, bromide, chloride, fluoride, iodide, amino, hydroxyl or C₃₋₆ cycloalkylamino.

22. (Previously Presented): The process according to claim 20, further comprising converting said compound of formula III to a compound of formula IV and recovering said compound of formula X:



23. (Original): A process according to claim 12, wherein R₁₁ is C₁₋₁₂ alkyl and R₁₂ is CO-C₆₋₁₂ aryl.

24. (Original): A process according to claim 12, wherein R_{11} is methyl and R_{12} is benzoyl.

25. (New): A process according to claim 1, wherein said process is carried out at a pH of 6 to 8, at a temperature in the range of 5 to 50°C, and in the presence of a solvent, and the concentration of enzyme with respect to the solvent is 1 mg/ml to 100 mg/ml.

26. (New): A process according to claim 1, wherein said process is carried out at a pH of 6 to 8, at a temperature in the range of 5 to 50°C, and in the presence of a solvent, and the concentration of enzyme with respect to the solvent is 1 mg/ml to 100 mg/ml.

27. (New): A process according to claim 1, wherein the weight ratio of the amount of enzyme to the amount of the compound of formula II is 1% to 25%.

28. (New): A process according to claim 1, wherein the weight ratio of the amount of enzyme to the amount of the compound of formula II is 5% to 10%.

29. (New): A process according to claim 12, wherein the weight ratio of the amount of enzyme to the amount of the compound of formula IV is 1% to 25%.

30. (New): A process according to claim 12, wherein the weight ratio of the amount of enzyme to the amount of the compound of formula IV is 5% to 10%.